

10/762,686

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application:

Listing of the Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A dental restoration piece, comprising:  
a base structure formed of a selected one of a single member and multiple members;  
an over structure which is securable to the base structure in a manner in which the over structure at least partially covers the base structure, at least a portion of the over structure having at least one bite surface being comprised of at least one hardened bite element [(12, 14, 16)]; and  
at least one interconnecting material [(10)] which interconnects the hardened bite elements [(12, 14, 16)] with the base structure.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Original) A dental restoration piece according to claim 1, wherein the interconnecting material is comprised of ceramic.
5. (Currently amended) A dental restoration piece according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the bite surface forming bite elements [(12, 14, 16, 18)] is comprised of a pre-prepared ceramic and, especially, a selected one of an aluminum oxide ceramic, a zirconium oxide ceramic, a glass ceramic, and a mixture of such ceramics.
6. (Currently amended) A dental restoration piece according to claim 1, wherein the bite element [(12, 14, 16, 18)] is comprised of a pre-prepared plastic element, especially a pre-prepared plastic element, preferably a light hardenable or thermally hardenable plastic element.
7. (Original) A dental restoration piece according to claim 1, wherein the base structure comprises a selected one of a metal frame, a metal ceramic frame, a ceramic frame, a plastic frame, and a plastic fiberglass frame.
8. (Currently amended) A dental restoration piece according to claim 1, wherein each bite element [(12, 14, 16, 18)] forms a partial bite surface and, for each tooth for which the bite element (12, 14, 16, and 18) is to form at least a portion of the bite surface of the tooth, a selected one of a set of one bite element (12, 14, 16, 18), a set of two bite elements (12, 14, 16, 18), a set of three bite elements (12, 14, 16, 18), and a set of four bite elements (12,

14, 16, 18) is the bite surface for each individual tooth, consists of one, two, three, or four individual bite elements which are applied onto positions corresponding to the tooth protuberance locations of the respective tooth and the dental restoration piece is specifically configured for a pre-molar or a molar.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently amended) A method for producing a dental restoration piece, comprising the steps of:  
applying an interconnecting material  $[(10)]$  onto a base structure, the base structure being adapted for being covered at least partially by an over structure which provides the bite forming surface of the dental restoration piece;  
pressing, onto the interconnecting material  $[(10)]$  which has been applied onto the base structure, at least one hardened bite element  $[(12, 14, 16)]$  which forms at least a portion of the bite forming region of the over surface in a manner such that the at least one hardened bite element  $[(12, 14, 16)]$  is ultimately oriented for biting operation; and  
subjecting the interconnecting material  $[(10)]$  on the base structure to a hardening process by which the interconnecting material  $[(10)]$  is hardened fully.

13. (Cancelled)